

FWP COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: August 26, 2014

Agenda Item: 2014 Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes Waterfowl and Pheasant/Partridge Regulations

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Final

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 5 minutes

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Background

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and the State of Montana have entered into a cooperative management agreement on the Flathead Reservation that provides for presentation and approval of Tribal bird season frameworks to the FW Commission. Regional FWP staff is included in the development of Tribal waterfowl regulations, which are set within federal frameworks in the Pacific Flyway. Tribal recommendations are first presented to the Flathead Reservation Fish and Wildlife Board. The board votes on tentative proposals and opens them to general public review and comment. The board then meets for final adoption. Adopted final proposals are then presented to the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal Council. FWP commission endorsement is subject to final Tribal Council approval.

The significant differences between these Tribal regulations and the current or proposed FWP waterfowl and upland bird regulations are:

- Tribal shooting hours are sunrise to sunset for all pheasant and partridge hunting (no grouse may be taken);
- No hunting with falcons on the Flathead Indian Reservation;
- A requirement that only non-toxic shot be used for all game birds on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Public Involvement Process & Results

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribal process includes public comment.

Alternatives and Analysis

None considered at this time.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

Recommend endorsement of Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes waterfowl and pheasant/partridge regulations subject to Tribal Council approval.

Proposed Motion

I move that the FW Commission endorse the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes waterfowl and pheasant/partridge regulations as presented and subject to final Tribal Council approval.